ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About EXAMINATIONS Choose The Correct Answer MCQ Exercise 51

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1	**D**	2	**B**	3	**B**	4	**C**	5	**A**	6	**B**	7	**A**	8	**D**	9	**A**	10	**A**
11	**A**	12	**B**	13	**C**	14	**C**	15	**A**	16	**C**	17	**C**	18	**A**				

Explanations

1. Miss Diligent did nine hours' _____ studying a day for her exam.
✓ **D) solid**
Solid used with a length of time means without a break, for the whole time: **nine hours' solid studying**, **two solid hours of work**. **Heavy**, **big** and **powerful** are not used this way with periods of time.

2. In the examination you may be asked for comments on various _____ of a topic.
✓ **B) aspects**
An **aspect** is one part or side of a topic or problem: **the various aspects of a topic**. Not **angles**: we look at a topic **from different angles**, but we don't say 'angles of a topic'.

3. Failing the final exam was a big _____ to my hopes.
✓ **B) blow**
A blow to someone's hopes is a fixed phrase for a sudden disappointment or shock: **Failing was a big blow to my hopes. Hit** is not used in this phrase.

4. You shouldn't talk about him failing. You'll _____ his confidence.
✓ **C) undermine**
To **undermine** someone's confidence means to make it slowly weaker. Not **underestimate**, which means to think something is smaller or less important than it really is.

5. I'm feeling rather _____ because of the exam I'm doing next week.
✓ **A) anxious**
Anxious means worried and nervous about something that is going to happen, such as an exam next week. **Unquiet** is not used for this feeling, and **impatient** means unable to wait calmly.

6. The result of this exam will _____ his future.
✓ **B) determine**
To **determine** something means to decide what it will be: **The result will determine his future. Role** is a noun and cannot follow **will**. **Control** and **govern** mean to have power over something, and we don't use them for what an exam result does.

7. Please be _____; I haven't got long.
✓ **A) brief**
Please be brief is the usual way to ask someone to speak for only a short time. Not **short**, because **be short with someone** means to be rude. **Shortly** is an adverb meaning 'soon', so it cannot follow **be** here.

8. George has no head for figures. He simply cannot _____ them.
✓ **D) remember**
To have no head for figures means to be bad with numbers, so George simply cannot **remember** them. **Realise** means to understand that something is true, which doesn't fit here.

9. No one is so _____ as the person who has no wish to learn.
✓ **A) ignorant**
Ignorant means lacking knowledge. The saying means that a person who doesn't want to learn will always know the least. **Simple** and **sensible** don't have this meaning.

10. In a multiple-choice exercise, it's sometimes easier to _____ the wrong answers before choosing the right one.
✓ **A) eliminate**
To **eliminate** means to remove things you don't want, one by one, until the right one is left: **eliminate the wrong answers**. **Omit** means to leave something out, and **exclude** means to keep something out from the start, so neither describes this step-by-step process.

11. Waiting outside the examination room, I trembled with _____.
✓ **A) apprehension**
Apprehension is a feeling of worry or fear about something that is going to happen: **trembling with apprehension** before an exam. Don't confuse it with **comprehension**, which means understanding.

12. His test results are not very _____. He does well one month and badly the next.
✓ **B) consistent**
Consistent means always staying at the same level. His results go up and down, so they are not consistent. Not **consequent**, which means 'happening as a result of something'.

13. The _____ exam in March prepared pupils for the real thing in May.
✓ **C) mock**
A **mock exam** is a practice exam taken before the real one: **a mock exam in March**. **False**, **imaginary** and **unreal** are not used for practice exams.

14. My hopes of becoming a doctor _____ when I failed my "A" levels.
✓ C) crumbled
When hopes **crumble**, they slowly fall apart and disappear: **My hopes crumbled when I failed.** **Cracked**, **crashed** and **smashed** describe physical objects breaking and are not used with hopes in this way.

15. I was completely _____ by most of the exam questions, so I must have failed.
✓ A) baffled
Baffled means completely unable to understand something: **I was baffled by the questions.** Not **confusing**, because the -ing form describes the thing that causes the feeling. The person feels **confused**, and the questions are **confusing**.

16. Having already graduated from another university, he was _____ from the entrance examination.
✓ C) exempted
To be **exempted from** something means you are officially allowed not to do it: **exempted from the entrance exam**. Not **excluded**, which means kept out or not allowed to take part, often as a punishment.

17. This exam is supposed to be _____ because the marking is not affected by individual preferences.
✓ C) objective
Objective means based on facts, not on personal feelings or opinions. The clue is 'not affected by individual preferences'. **Impersonal** means cold or without human warmth, which is a different idea.

18. Any candidate caught _____ in the examination will be disqualified.
✓ A) cheating
Cheating is the usual word for breaking the rules in an exam, for example by copying: **caught cheating in the exam**. **Deceiving**, **swindling** and **tricking** mean lying to people or taking their money, and are not used for exams.

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